



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AUSTIN TEXAS
INTER-OFFICE

TO: WIC Regional Directors
WIC Local Agency Directors

FROM: Barbara Keir, Director
Division of Public Health Nutrition and Education

Original Signed

DATE: March 27, 2003

SUBJECT: "CPA" Acronym is being replaced with "C.A." Certifying Authority

We have recently been notified by the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy that they object to the WIC program certification staff using the acronym "CPA". The Public Accountancy Act reserves the acronym "CPA" for use by certified public accountants. They have requested that WIC competent professional authorities not use "CPA" any longer.

The Texas WIC program is asking that all WIC staff currently known as "CPA's" change their official signature title to Certifying Authority with "C.A." as the acronym. There are legal ramifications to individuals that continue to use "CPA" and we are asking each of you to make a conscious effort to discontinue this practice. In addition, we are requesting that local agencies identify the impact of changing forms and policies and notify the state of the cost, time and effort it will take.

We will rework our policies, forms and training materials to reflect this change, but ask that local agencies immediately have staff implement this new title.

If you have any questions, please contact Patti Fitch, Clinical Nutrition Coordinator at 512/ 458-7111, extension 3598.